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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

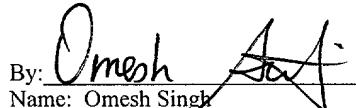
Applicant: HAATAJA ET AL. Examiner:
Patent No.: 5,923,753 Group Art Unit: 2742
Assignee: ADC TELECOMMUNICATION, INC.
Filed: NOVEMBER 17, 1997 Docket No.: 2316.869USRE
Title: OPTIC CABLE EXIT TROUGH WITH BYPASS

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By: 
Name: Omesh Singh

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified Reissue Application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add claims 5-10.

5. A cable trough comprising:

a bottom portion;

two upstanding sides extending from the bottom portion to define a cable pathway;

the cable trough having first and second opposed ends and a central portion disposed therebetween;

a component support flange extending from one of the upstanding sides; and

an optical fiber cable component mounted to the component support flange.

6. The cable trough of claim 5 wherein the optical fiber cable component is selected from a group consisting of connectors, adapters, splitters/combiners, attenuators, splicings, switches, wave division multiplexers, and amplifiers.

7. The cable trough of claim 5 wherein the component support flange extends inwardly from one of the upstanding sides in a direction toward the other side.

8. A cable trough comprising:

a bottom portion;

two upstanding sides extending from the bottom portion to define a cable pathway;

the cable trough having first and second opposed ends and a central portion disposed therebetween; and

component support means positioned within the cable pathway for holding an optical fiber component.

9. The cable trough of claim 8 wherein the component support means holds an optical fiber cable component selected from a group consisting of connectors, adapters, splitters/combiners, attenuators, splicings, switches, wave division multiplexers, and amplifiers.

10. A cable trough comprising:

a bottom portion;

upstanding sides extending from the bottom portion to define a cable pathway;

a component support holder positioned in the cable pathway and extending transversely to the cable pathway; and

a plurality of cable components mounted to the component support holder, wherein the cable components are selected from a group consisting of connectors, adapters, splitters/combiners, attenuators, splicings, switches, wave division multiplexers, and amplifiers, the cable components defining an array extending transversely to the cable pathway.

REMARKS

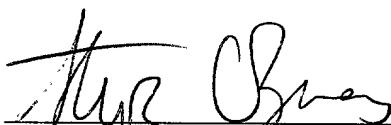
Original claims 1-4 from U.S. Patent No. 5,923,753 are pending. New claims 5-10 have been added by this amendment.

Independent claims 5, 8 and 10 are related to claims 1 and 3 of the '753 patent having changes including elimination of the recitation of "the upstanding sides spaced further apart from each other in the central portion than on each end to define an enlarged central portion of the cable trough; the enlarged central portion of the cable trough including a downwardly extending, central exit trough portion through the bottom portion; two upstanding separator walls extending upwardly from the bottom portion, each separator wall positioned on opposite sides of the central exit trough portion, each separator wall laterally spaced from the respective sides to each define a cable bypass pathway between the first and second ends." Support for claims 5-10 is found, for example, with reference to col. 3, lines 46-55 and Figures 4 and 6 of the '753 patent.

Respectfully submitted,

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